

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A sterilisation apparatus for medical instruments and the like which is easy to operate, handle and transport comprising a mini sterilisation apparatus, said mini sterilisation apparatus comprising a casing provided with a double-walled sterilisation boiler having an inner wall and an outer wall, whereby fluid is present between the inner and the outer wall such that a stable temperature of the inner wall can be achieved as well as steam generated therefrom, and an apparatus for providing a pulsating high vacuum in said boiler so as to pulsatingly feed steam into the interior of the sterilisation boiler, wherein the double-walled sterilisation boiler comprises an inner boiler having a volume of from about 10 to about 50 liters.

2. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising regulators and heating elements in said double boiler walls which provide for a stable fluid temperature.

3. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an inlet and apparatus for feeding steam for the sterilisation process pulsatingly into said boiler, and an apparatus for providing a pulsating vacuum in said boiler such that air in the instruments or the like objects which are to be sterilised can be removed.

4. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an apparatus for setting and measuring pressure, temperature, time and output.

5. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising a process computer which displays various data read-outs digitally and/or alphanumerically and/or graphically.

6. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a switch clock for "stand-by" purposes, wherein said "stand-by" purposes are for heating-up of and maintaining the temperature of said boiler.

7. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising lateral supports for a number of standard plateaus on which objects to be sterilised may be placed.

8. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the front or feed side of the boiler can be sealed pressure-tight by means of a heat-isolating hinged

door provided with an incorporated nut whereby the casing to that end is provided with a swivelable hermetically sealing screw.

9. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said sealing screw is operated by means of an electromotor of which the operating phases are operated by said process computer.

10. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said double-walled boiler comprises a cylindrical sterilisation boiler placed symmetrically though non-concentrically within a cylindrical outer boiler, such that in the use-position the volume of the fluid or water space on the bottom of the double-walled boiler is considerably larger than at the top of the boiler.

11. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said double-walled boiler comprises a cylindrical sterilisation boiler placed concentrically within a cylindrical outer boiler.

12. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said process computer and said sterilisation apparatus are provided in a casing said casing further comprising the fluid reservoir with corresponding pump, control appendages, a dry-air connection and a connection to a vacuum line with valves.

13. **(Cancelled).**

14. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising demineralized water.

15. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising an internal or external printing apparatus for displaying said data read outs.

16. **(Previously Amended)** A sterilisation apparatus for medical instruments and the like which is easy to operate, handle and transport comprising a mini sterilisation apparatus, said mini sterilisation apparatus comprising:

a casing provided with a double-walled sterilisation boiler having an inner wall and an outer wall, whereby fluid is present between the inner and the outer wall such that a stable temperature of the inner wall can be achieved as well as steam generated therefrom and a steam valve for pulsatingly feeding steam into the interior of the sterilisation boiler, wherein said double-walled boiler comprises a cylindrical inner boiler placed within a cylindrical outer boiler, wherein the inner boiler has a volume of from about 10 to about 50 liters.

17. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said cylindrical inner boiler is placed concentrically or symmetrically but non-concentrically within said outer boiler.

18. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising regulators and heating elements in said double boiler walls which provide for a stable fluid temperature.

19. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising an inlet and apparatus for feeding steam for the sterilisation process pulsatingly into said boiler, and an apparatus for providing a pulsating vacuum in said boiler such that air in the instruments or the like objects which are to be sterilised can be removed.

20. **(Previously Amended)** The apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising an apparatus for setting and measuring pressure, temperature, time and output.

21. **(Previously Added)** The apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising a process computer which displays various data read-outs digitally and/or alphanumerically and/or graphically.

22. **(Previously Amended)** A sterilization apparatus for medical instruments and the like objects which are easy to handle and/or remove, consisting of:

a casing with a sterilization chamber comprising a double-walled boiler whereby fluid is present between the inner and the outer wall of the boiler;

regulators and heating elements for performing the sterilization process by means of which temperature and steam generated therefrom are controlled, wherein said casing comprises a cylindrical horizontally arranged boiler comprising an inner boiler, wherein the cylindrical inner boiler has a volume of 10 to 50 liters and is horizontally placed and wherein said fluid partially fills a cylindrical space between the boilers, and wherein during the sterilization process the upper cylindrical space is filled with steam pulsatingly into the inner boiler.

23. **(New)** A method of sterilizing a medical comprising introducing the medical instrument into an apparatus according to any one of Claims 1, 16 or 22, pulsatingly introducing said steam into said boiler, and removing said instrument from said apparatus.

24. **(New)** A method according to Claim 23, wherein the medical instrument comprises a hollow instrument part from which all air is removed.